

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1-7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A management system of a machine, ~~comprises~~ comprising:

a maintenance rank table organized by model that stores a maintenance prediction value with respect to a maintenance within a contract term ~~or a contract time~~, for two or more contract ranks for each of one or more models ~~every each model~~;

~~an input~~ a means for inputting ~~that enters~~ a model of machine that makes a maintenance contract, a contract rank, and a maintenance actual result value;

a means for storing a maintenance actual result value, where the maintenance actual result value of the machine, ~~which is entered using the input means and is~~ is accumulatively stored; and

a ~~determination~~ means for determining ~~that determines~~ whether a maintenance actual result value is larger than a maintenance prediction value, ~~where the maintenance prediction value that corresponds~~ corresponding to the machine's ~~mode~~ model and

wherein the contract rank is read out of the maintenance rank table organized by model ~~after an expiration of the contract of the machine, while~~ and the maintenance result value of the machine is read out of the ~~storage~~ means for storing ~~that stores~~ the maintenance actual result value after an expiration of the contract of the machine.

9. (Currently Amended) A management system of a machine as claimed in Claim 8, wherein:

the ~~determination~~ means for determining includes a means to calculate a dividend, ~~where a dividend is calculated if under the condition that~~ when the maintenance actual value is lower than the maintenance predicted value and the difference between ~~these values~~ the maintenance actual value and the maintenance predicted value is higher than ~~[[the]]~~ a predetermined value.

10. (Currently Amended) A management system of a machine as claimed in Claim 8 wherein:

the contract rank of the maintenance rank table organized by model is defined on the basis of ~~[[the]]~~ usage conditions and ~~[[the]]~~ operating conditions of the machine.

11. (Currently Amended) A management system of a machine, comprising:

a client terminal and a server that connects to the client terminal through a network, wherein

the client server includes an input means for entering a model of machine under a maintenance contract, a contract rank, and a maintenance actual result value, a display means, and a control means that requests data ~~[[to]]~~ from the server and represents the data transmitted from the server on the display means; and

the server includes a maintenance rank table organized by model that stores a maintenance predicted value with respect to a maintenance of each machine's ~~mode~~ model within a contract time ~~or a contract term~~ for two or more contract ranks for each of one or more models ~~every two or more contract ranks~~, a means ~~[[of]]~~ for storing a maintenance actual result value, which accumulatively stores the maintenance actual result value of the machine entered

from the client terminal, and a ~~determination~~ means for determining whether the maintenance actual result value is larger than the maintenance predicted value after an expiration of the contract of the machine,

wherein ~~that reads out~~ the maintenance predicted value, which corresponds to the machine's model and the contract rank, is read out from the maintenance rank table from the maintenance actual result value storage means, and the maintenance actual result value is read out from the means for storing the maintenance actual value ~~while reads out the maintenance actual result value of the machine from the maintenance actual result value storage means, and then determines whether the maintenance actual result value is larger than the maintenance predicted value.~~

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A management method of a machine, comprising the steps of:

storing a maintenance predicted value with respect to a maintenance in a maintenance rank table organized by model in a contract time period ~~or in a contract term~~ for every two or more contract ranks for each of one or more models;

storing the ~~mode~~ model of a machine under maintenance contract, contract rank, and maintenance actual result value, where the maintenance actual result value of the machine is accumulatively stored in a means for storing the maintenance actual result,

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~~accumulatively storing a maintenance actual result value of the machine being entered into the means for storing the maintenance actual result;~~

reading the maintenance actual result value out of the means for storing the maintenance actual result value ~~in addition to read~~ and reading a maintenance predicted value out of the machine maintenance rank table organized by ~~mode~~ model, where the maintenance predicted value ~~correspond~~ corresponds to the machine's ~~mode~~ model and the contract rank after an expiration of the contract of the machine; and

determining whether the maintenance actual result value is larger than the maintenance predicted value.

14. (Currently Amended) A management method of Claim 13, wherein

~~[[if]]~~ when the maintenance actual result value is smaller than the maintenance predicted value and a difference between these values is larger than a predetermined value, a dividend is calculated and paid ~~it is preferable to calculate and pay the dividend under the conditions that the difference between these values is larger than a predetermined value.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A management method of Claim 13, wherein

the contract rank of the maintenance rank table organized by model is reconsidered ~~under the conditions that~~ when the difference between the maintenance actual result value and the maintenance predicted value is larger than a predetermined value, and a new contract rank is

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obtained by the reconsideration at the time of making a following maintenance contract, followed by using the new contract rank in the following maintenance contract.

16. (Currently Amended) A management method of Claim 15, wherein

[[if]] when the contract rank in the maintenance rank table organized by model is reconsidered, [[the]] usage conditions and operating conditions of the machine are considered in the process of reconsideration.

17-18. (Cancelled).